GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:504
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2001
ASSESSMENT OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Working Group was set up under the Chairmanship of Director of NCERTto assess the implementation position of vocational education;

(b) if so, the contents of the theme paper prepared by the working group; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the recommendations made therein?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY & OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 504 FOR 28.8.200 REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION BY DR. N.VENKATASWAMY

National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) constituted a Working Group in consultation with the Ministryin March, 1998. The Working Group concurred with the major findings of the evaluation o f the scheme of Vocationalisation o f Secondary Education submitted by Operation Research Group (ORG).The major findings as reported by the Working Group in its paper/report were:-

(i) Low priority being accorded to vocational education by states as compared to state run programmes.

(ii) Directorate of school education, by and large, found to be working in isolation with little interaction with other relevant departments.

(iii) Reluctance shown by all state governments towards appointment of full-time staff because of unwillingness to take on a long term committed liability, in case of closure of the scheme.

(iv) Part-time teachers were largely unemployed graduates who were inexperienced and not from industry.

(v) Almost everywhere, teacher training was conspicuous by its absence.

(vi) In most states there has been a mere adoption of curriculum and textbooks designed by the Pandit Sunderlal Sharma, Central Institute of Vocational Education(PSSCIVE, Bhopal/NCERT).

(vii) Students across the country were reported to be facing language problems as the NCERT books were in English.

(viii) Utilization of training seats by vocational pass outs appear to be negligible across all zones, primarily because placements were rarely available within one's own district.

(ix) The proportionate share of vocational students vis-a- vis total enrolment at the higher secondary stage was only 4.8 per cent, a significant departure from the 10 per cent by mid-decade as envisaged at the national level.

(x) Only 28 per cent of pass outs were employed/self employed.

(xi) As high as 38.3 per cent of the pass outs were presently pursuing higher studies.

2. The recommendations of the Working Group were sent to states. States and UTs have responded. The recommendations of the Group and suggestions from the States are being considered while preparing the strategies for the 10th plan to be submitted to the Planning Commission. Meanwhile, in order to increase the focus on the implementation and strengthening of the Scheme, the expenditure was increased from Rs.6.98 Crores during the previous year (1999-2000) to Rs.40.70 Crores during the year 2000-2001.